

**From:** Barbara Winter  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/3/02 12:43pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

To: Department of Justice

Re: Review period for Microsoft Antitrust case

As a consumer of Computer software for 20 years, I wish to express my dismay that special interest groups-primarily Microsoft competitors-are attempting to derail the Court of Appeals settlement agreed upon in November of 2001. This settlement is tough, but reasonable and fair to all parties involved. Consumers overwhelmingly agree that settlement is good for them, the industry and the American economy. Unfortunately, a few special interests are attempting to use this review period to derail the settlement and prolong this litigation even in the midst of uncertain economic times. The last thing the American economy needs is more litigation that benefits only a few wealthy competitors and stifles innovation.

Don't let these special interests defeat the public interest.

In the settlement, Microsoft has agreed to provide software developers the necessary access to the code that enables them to create programs that interact with Microsoft platforms. The new .NET platform has raised more excitement in world-wide software developer communities than any previous operating system, in large part because Microsoft is encouraging developers to innovate, and supporting them in that effort regardless of their allegiance or affiliations. This freedom to innovate is essential to American values. It's good for competition, good for consumers.

Please take a balanced and fair look at how the proposed final settlement will affect CONSUMERS. That is the group anti-trust laws were meant to protect.

Thank you,

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